



Sports Complex Task Force Meeting Minutes
September 13, 2023

Present: Mayor Rick Meehan, Council President Matt James, Councilmember John Gehrig, Councilmember Carol Proctor, City Manager Terry McGean, Tom Perlozzo, Don Abramson, Jessica Waters, Lauren Davis, County Commissioner Joe Mitrecic, County Commissioner Diana Purnell, Berlin Councilmember Steve Green, Berlin Councilmember Shaneka Nichols, Berlin Mayor Zack Tyndall, Ocean Pines Former President Doug Parks, Steve Pastusak, Leighton Moore, John Fager, Ruth Waters, Sal Fasano, Dr. Leonard Berger, Martin Branagan, Bill Regan, Ron Strickler, Jerry Greenspan, Al Hondo Handy, Lloyd Martin, Maryland Stadium Authority Capital Projects Development Group Executive Vice President Gary McGuigan, Crossroads Consulting President Susan Sieger, The Sports Facilities Companies National Director of Business Development Jim Arnold, Press, Interested Parties

- A. Mayor Meehan called the meeting to order at 10:10 a.m. at the Roland E. Powell Convention Center, Room 215. The Mayor welcomed attendees.
 - a. The Worcester County Commissioners took the lead on this project but was recently voted down by the Commissioners. It is now an Ocean City project but the door is still open if the County wishes to be involved. The Mayor and City Council have identified this project as a number one priority in the Strategic Plan and Capital Improvement Plan. This task force is similar to the Blue Ribbon Committee for the Roland E. Powell Convention Center project. Since then, the Town has expanded the convention center three times. The group will discuss five issues today. 1. Determine the scope of the project. Will it be indoor, outdoor or both? 2. What sports do we want to accommodate? 3. Size of the site? Will it be built in phases? 4. Course of action for pursuing legislation. 5. Location of properties discussed in closed session.
- B. Mayor Meehan asked members to introduce themselves.
- C. Tom Perlozzo provided history and background on the project when Worcester County was spearheading efforts.
 - a. Discussion and history on why the County chose the initial property at Rt. 50 and Stephen Decatur High School.
 - i. See attached presentation

-continued-

- D. Crossroads Consulting Presentation
 - a. Proposed New Sports Complex – Market and Economic Analysis Update
 - i. See attached presentation
- E. Maryland Stadium Authority Presentation
 - a. See attached presentation
- F. Sports Facilities Companies Presentation
 - a. Ocean City Sports Complex
 - i. See attached presentation
- G. The task force unanimously agreed on the following issues:
 - a. Scope: Indoor and Outdoor
 - b. Sports: All sports that are possible to fit on site. Emphasis on lacrosse.
 - c. Size of Property: Big enough property to accommodate what is being proposed with the ability for future expansions.
 - d. Determine best course of action for following up with the legislature: Work with the Maryland Stadium Authority through the legislative process with the Maryland General Assembly to:
 - i. In 2023, obtain funding for design.
 - ii. In 2024, obtain funding for the project to move forward with construction.
- H. Final Comments
 - a. Prior to closing, the meeting was open to questions from the task force.
- I. The Mayor closed the meeting at 12:08 p.m. to break for lunch and then convene into closed session as permitted under General Provisions Article § 3-305(b)(3) to consider the acquisition of real property for the public purpose and matters directly related thereto. The closed session convened at 12:41 p.m.
 - a. Persons Present: Mayor Rick Meehan, Council President Matt James, Councilmember John Gehrig, Councilmember Carol Proctor, City Manager Terry McGean, Tom Perlozzo, Don Abramson, Jessica Waters, Lauren Davis, County Commissioner Joe Mitrecic, County Commissioner Diana Purnell, Berlin Councilmember Steve Green, Berlin Councilmember Shaneka Nichols, Berlin Mayor Zack Tyndall, Ocean Pines Former President Doug Parks, Steve Pastusak, Leighton Moore, John Fager, Ruth Waters, Sal Fasano, Dr. Leonard Berger, Martin Branagan, Bill Regan, Ron Strickler, Jerry Greenspan, Al Hondo Handy, Lloyd Martin, Maryland Stadium Authority Capital Projects Development Group Executive Vice President Gary McGuigan, Crossroads Consulting President Susan Sieger, The Sports Facilities Companies National Director of Business Development Jim Arnold.
- J. The closed session adjourned at 2:00 p.m.
- K. A date has not yet been established for the next meeting.